

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/713,083

Examiner

Douglas Q. Tran

Applicant(s)

WALMSLEY ET AL.

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/25/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 17 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 7/25/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DOUGLAS Q. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Tran

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please amend claims 3 and 6 as follows:

3. (Currently amended) The print engine/controller of claim 1, wherein:
the [[a]] half-toner/compositer selects between two dither matrices on a pixel by pixel basis based on a corresponding value in a dither matrix select map.

6. (Currently amended) The print engine/controller of claim 1, wherein:
the [[a]] half-toner/compositer selects between two dither matrices on a pixel by pixel basis based on a corresponding value in a dither matrix select map.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-19 are allowed.

Claim 1 is independent claim.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claim 1, the present invention from the application discloses a print engine/controller configured to be coupled with **other print engine/controllers** to drive a **single**

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ink-drop printhead, comprising “ a half-toner/compositer to composite respective strips of the decoded image planes by halftoning a contone layer to a bi-level version and compositing a spot! bi-level layer over an appropriate halftoned contone layer; and a synchronization signal generator outputting a synchronization signal to couple print engine/controllers to synchronize their respective strips at the printhead”. The closest prior art such as Silverbrook et al. (US Patent No. 6,447,113 B1) from IDS discloses a plurality of the print engine/controllers (i.e., both of CCPs in fig. 30) linked by inter-CCP interface, each has a printhead interface to a separate printhead. However, the above prior art, including an updated electronic text search, fails to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7442 or E-mail address is douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Aug. 05, 2005

DOUGLAS Q. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

